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\* Admitted in TX only  
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July 28, 2005

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/815,883  
For: *SPINAL ROD CONNECTOR*  
Inventors: Iain Kalfas, *et al.*  
Filed: March 31, 2004  
Our Ref. No.: DUQ-002

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith for filing in the above-identified application the following:

1. Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form SB/08;
3. A copy of the International Search Report;
4. A copy of the Written Opinion;
5. Copies of the selected references cited in PTO Form SB/08 (3); and
6. A Return Postcard.

No additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, please charge any necessary fees in connection with the enclosed statement to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080. For this purpose, a duplicate of this sheet is attached.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

July 28, 2005

Date

Kevin J. Canning, Esq., Registration No. 35,470

Respectfully submitted,  
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

Kevin J. Canning, Esq.  
Registration No. 35,470  
Attorney for Applicants



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Kalfas, Iain, *et al.*

Serial No. 10/815,883

Filed: March 31, 2004

For: *SPINAL ROD CONNECTOR*

Attorney Docket No. DUQ-002 (DEP5290)

Group Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

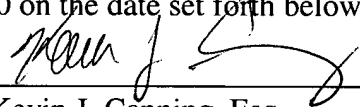
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Certificate of First Class Mailing (37 CFR §1.8(a))

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July 28, 2005  
Date of Signature and of Mail Deposit

By:

  
Kevin J. Canning, Esq.  
Registration No. 35,470  
Attorney for Applicants

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

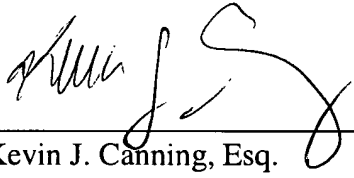
Dear Sir:

Applicants and their Attorney are aware of the following publications and information, listed on the attached PTO Form SB/08, and in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97 hereby submit these publications for the Examiner's consideration. Reference ID Nos. B1-B3 and B5-B7 were cited in an International Search Report and Written Opinion dated June 28, 2005 during the prosecution of PCT/US2005/008692 which corresponds to the above referenced application. A copy of the report and selected cited publication is enclosed. Copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. publications (Reference ID Nos. B1-B4) are not enclosed with this statement. Copies of foreign patent documents (Reference ID Nos. B5-B7) are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98.

This statement is not to be interpreted as a representation that the cited publications are material, that an exhaustive search has been conducted, or that no other relevant information exists. Nor shall the citation of any publication herein be construed *per se* as a representation that such publication is prior art. Moreover, the Applicants understand that the Examiner will make an independent evaluation of the cited publications.

Under 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(3), no additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this disclosure. If, however, a first Office Action on the merits issues in this application bearing a mailing date prior to the date of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge the appropriate fee as required under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080.

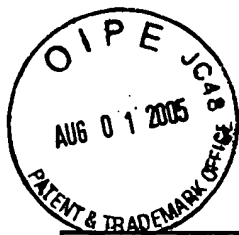
Respectfully submitted,  
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KJC/CMB/rl  
Enclosures



PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
			Application Number	10/815,883	
			Filing Date	March 31, 2004	
			First Named Inventor	Iain Kalfas	
			Art Unit	3732	
			Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	DUQ-002

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	B1	5,630,816	05-20-1997	Kambin, P.	
	B2	5,669,910	09-23-1997	Korhonen, F.J., et al.	
	B3	5,910,142	06-08-1999	Tatar, S.	
	B4	2002/0138077 A1	09-26-2002	Ferree, B.A.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	B5	EP 1312316 A2	05-21-2003	Tantum AG		Abet
	B6	FR 2781359 A1	07-21-1998	Pierre Boccara		Abet
	B7	WO 01/01872 A1	01-11-2001	Spinevision S.A.		Abet

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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